

Application No.: 10/618,145
Amendment dated: June 7, 2005
Reply to Office Action dated: February 7, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-29 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 11, and 20 have been amended. Claims 3, 13, and 22 have been cancelled.

Claims 1-4, 7-8, 10-13, 16-17, 19-23, 26-27, and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0233568 to Rao et al. (Hereinafter "Rao"). Claims 1-2, 4, 7-9, 11-12, 16-18, 20-21, 23, and 26-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being rendered obvious by U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0097517 to Bonin et al. (Hereinafter "Bonin") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,901,014 to Hiraoka et al. (Hereinafter "Hiraoka"). Claims 5-6, 14-15, and 24-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being rendered obvious by Bonin in view of Hiraoka.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-4, 7-8, 10-13, 16-17, 19-23, 26-27, and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Rao. Rao discloses an electrostatic actuator for adjusting a spacing (*See* Abstract).

Applicants respectfully submit that, as shown by the attached affidavit, their invention was conceived of prior to Rao's filing date of May 19, 2003. Therefore, Rao cannot be considered proper prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-4, 7-8, 10-13, 16-17, 19-23, 26-27, and 29 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) is respectfully requested.

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Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-2, 4, 7-9, 11-12, 16-18, 20-21, 23, and 26-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C.

§103(a) as being rendered obvious by Bonin in view of Hiraoka. Bonin discloses a disc drive that includes a slider with a field emission sensor that senses fly height (*See Abstract*). Hiraoka discloses a magnetic head assembly includes a slider on which a magnetic head is mounted, a spring arm having a gimbal portion on which the slider is mounted, a wiring pattern provided on the spring arm and electrically connected to the magnetic head, and an insulating member provided between the slider and the gimbal portion of the spring arm (*See Abstract*).

Applicants respectfully submit that neither Bonin, Hiraoka, nor any combination thereof teach or suggest a charging electrical pad coupled to the slider separate from the magnetic head during a wafer fabrication process, as claimed in claims 1, 11, and 20 as amended, nor does the Office Action claims that this is the case. Applicants respectfully submit, therefore, that elements of claim 1, 11 and 20 are neither shown nor suggested by the cited reference. Claims 2, 4, 7-9, 12, 16-18, 21, 23, and 26-28 depend from claims 1, 11 and 20. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-2, 4, 7-9, 11-12, 16-18, 20-21, 23, and 26-28 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Claims 5-6, 14-15, and 24-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being rendered obvious by Bonin in view of Hiraoka.

As stated above, Applicants respectfully submit that neither Bonin, Hiraoka, nor any combination thereof teach or suggest a charging electrical pad coupled to the slider separate from

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the magnetic head during a wafer fabrication process, as claimed in claims 1, 11, and 20 as amended, nor does the Office Action claims that this is the case. Applicants respectfully submit, therefore, that elements of claim 1, 11 and 20 are neither shown nor suggested by the cited reference. Claims 5-6, 14-15, and 24-25 depend from claims 1, 11 and 20. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 5-6, 14-15, and 24-25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Request for Allowance

It is believed that this Amendment places the application in condition for allowance, and early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. **11-0600**.

Respectfully submitted,
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